

NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT



Released: April 26, 2004
For Week Ending: April 25, 2004
ND-CW1704

Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN) and
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER
INFORMATION CENTER

General: Producers made steady progress seeding small grains which stayed ahead of last year's pace, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork has now begun across the entire state as the northeast district dried enough to allow some fieldwork. Statewide, an average of 5.6 days were suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture supplies as of April 25 were rated 8 percent very short, 22 short, 64 adequate and 6 surplus compared to last year's 7 percent very short, 20 short, 67 adequate and 6 surplus.

Crops: Planting progress remains ahead of last year and the five-year (1999-2003) average for most crops. Spring wheat was 32 percent planted compared to 29 percent last year and the five-year average of 14 percent. Barley and durum wheat were 23 and 17 percent planted respectively, both ahead of last year and the five-year average. Sugarbeet planting moved well ahead with 37 percent of the crop planted, more than double the five-year average of 17 percent. Canola was 14 percent planted compared to 9 percent a year ago. Crop emergence was 6 percent for spring wheat and 3 percent for durum wheat and sugarbeets.

Livestock: Reporters commented that statewide weather conditions this spring have resulted in very healthy calves and lambs. Calving was 85 percent complete compared to 82 percent last year. Lambing was 91 percent complete compared to 88 percent last year. Sheep shearing was 94 percent complete. Hay, roughage and concentrates supplies remained mostly adequate last week. Current supplies of hay and roughage were rated 2 percent very short, 19 short, 74 adequate and 5 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 7 short, 87 adequate and 4 surplus. Range and pastures were rated 56 percent growing compared to 62 percent growing last year. Range and pasture conditions were rated 8 percent very poor, 26 poor, 41 fair, 24 good and 1 excellent.

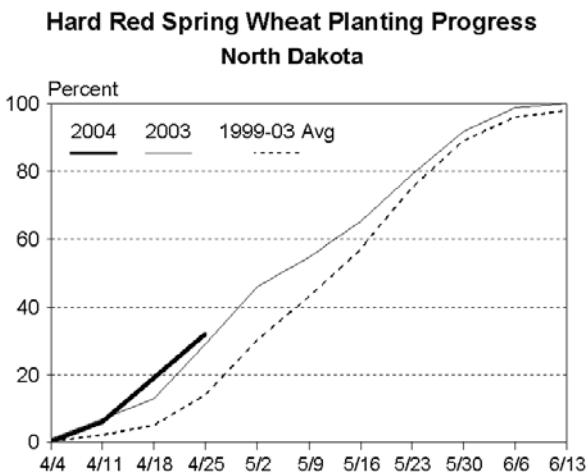
| Crop Development Progress ^{1/} April 25, 2004 with Comparisons | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| Crop | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 1999-03 Avg. |
| (Percent) | | | | |
| BARLEY | | | | |
| Planted | 23 | 9 | 16 | 8 |
| Emerged | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| DURUM WHEAT | | | | |
| Planted | 17 | 8 | 8 | 4 |
| Emerged | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| HRS WHEAT | | | | |
| Planted | 32 | 19 | 29 | 14 |
| Emerged | 6 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| OATS | | | | |
| Planted | 27 | 10 | 15 | 9 |
| Emerged | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| CANOLA | | | | |
| Planted | 14 | 4 | 9 | 5 |
| CORN, ALL | | | | |
| Planted | 17 | 3 | 13 | 6 |
| FLAXSEED | | | | |
| Planted | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| POTATOES | | | | |
| Planted | 6 | 2 | 8 | 5 |
| SOYBEANS | | | | |
| Planted | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| SUGARBEETS | | | | |
| Planted | 37 | 18 | 24 | 17 |
| Emerged | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |

1/ Crop development percents represent all acreage in or beyond each stage.

Soil Temperatures: Average soil temperatures on April 25 ranged from a low of 44 degrees F in Langdon to a high of 54 degrees in Linton. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil and are recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

| AVERAGE SOIL TEMPERATURES*, April 25, 2004 | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Station | Temperature | Station | Temperature |
| Degrees F | | Degrees F | |
| NORTHWEST | | CENTRAL | |
| Bowbells | 45 | Carrington | 50 |
| Minot | 52 | Robinson | 48 |
| Williston | 50 | Streeter | 48 |
| NORTH CENTRAL | | EAST CENTRAL | |
| Baker | 50 | Dazey | 49 |
| Bottineau | 46 | Fargo | 52 |
| Rolla | 48 | SOUTHWEST | |
| NORTHEAST | | Bowman | 47 |
| Cavalier | 49 | Dickinson | 51 |
| Grand Forks | 52 | SOUTH CENTRAL | |
| Langdon | 44 | Linton | 54 |
| WEST CENTRAL | | SOUTHEAST | |
| Turtle Lake | 49 | Oakes | 52 |
| Watford City | 51 | Wyndmere | 50 |

* Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.



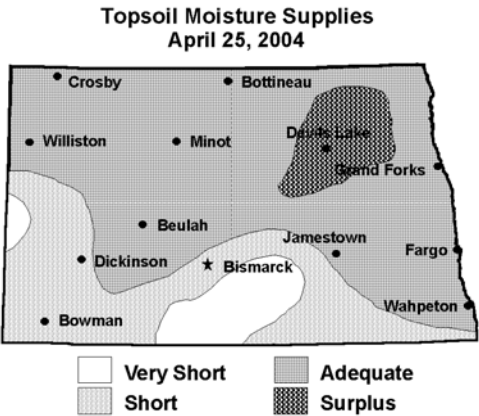
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NORTH DAKOTA CROP WEATHER REPORT, Week Ending April 25, 2004

Soil Moisture: North Dakota, April 25, 2004

| Date | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-------------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| | (Percent) | | | |
| TOPSOIL | | | | |
| This Week | 8 | 22 | 64 | 6 |
| Last Week | 6 | 19 | 67 | 8 |
| Last Year | 7 | 20 | 67 | 6 |
| 1999-03 Avg | 3 | 13 | 73 | 11 |
| SUBSOIL | | | | |
| This Week | 11 | 30 | 56 | 3 |
| Last Week | 11 | 25 | 60 | 4 |
| Last Year | 17 | 26 | 55 | 2 |
| 1999-03 Avg | 5 | 15 | 71 | 9 |



Weather: A very April-like pattern has set up across the state bringing nice temperatures as well as some strong winds. Statewide, weekly high temperatures were generally in the 60s with Baker, Rugby, Harvey, Cavalier, Cando and Mandan all reporting 70 degrees or higher. There are still some chilly nights to be found in the cool springtime air with weekly lows generally in the 20s with Bottineau, Hillsboro and Cavalier the cold spots with temperatures in the teens. Some rain toward the early part of this past week graced our area with Jamestown and Linton both picking up over 0.50 of an inch of rain.

Outlook, April 26-May 2: The early part of the week will hold generally partly cloudy skies with highs in the 60s and 70s and lows in the 30s and 40s. Wednesday is expected to bring some thunderstorms as well as some cooler temperatures. Expect highs for the rest of the week to hold in the 50s with lows in the 20s and 30s.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending April 25, 2004

| District Averages | Average Temperature | | Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---|-------|--------------------------------|
| | Past Week | Depart Normal ^{1/} | Past Week | Total | Depart Normal ^{1/} |
| | (Degrees F) | | (Inches) | | |
| Northwest (1) | 46 | 0 | 0.10 | 0.37 | -0.80 |
| N. Central (2) | 45 | 0 | 0.08 | 0.44 | -0.84 |
| Northeast (3) | 46 | -1 | 0.10 | 1.10 | 0.02 |
| W. Central (4) | 46 | -1 | 0.08 | 0.37 | -1.04 |
| Central (5) | 45 | -2 | 0.36 | 0.59 | -0.79 |
| E. Central (6) | 43 | -4 | 0.11 | 0.25 | -1.26 |
| Southwest (7) | 46 | 0 | 0.10 | 0.59 | -0.79 |
| S. Central (8) | 47 | 0 | 0.46 | 0.65 | -0.83 |
| Southeast (9) | 45 | -3 | 0.32 | 0.59 | -0.92 |

^{1/} Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA = Not Available.
Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND
Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending April 25, 2004

| Stations by District | Temperature Past Week | | Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1 | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|---|-------|--------------------------------|
| | High | Low | Past Week | Total | Depart Normal ^{1/} |
| | (Degrees F) | | (Inches) | | |
| (1) Bowbells | 65 | 24 | 0.18 | 0.52 | -0.54 |
| Williston | 65 | 27 | 0.03 | 0.21 | -0.83 |
| Mohall | 68 | 24 | 0.16 | 0.42 | -0.72 |
| Minot | 68 | 27 | 0.04 | 0.33 | -1.13 |
| (2) Baker | 70 | 22 | 0.06 | 0.42 | -1.01 |
| Bottineau | 69 | 16 | 0.12 | 0.46 | -0.60 |
| Rugby | 71 | 21 | 0.07 | 0.45 | -0.89 |
| (3) Cando | 70 | 25 | 0.04 | 0.79 | -0.10 |
| Cavalier | 70 | 16 | 0.10 | 1.66 | 0.56 |
| Forest River | 68 | 25 | 0.03 | 0.76 | -0.46 |
| Grand Forks | 66 | 26 | 0.08 | 0.20 | -0.95 |
| Langdon | 68 | 21 | 0.14 | 1.47 | 0.56 |
| St. Thomas | 69 | 27 | 0.23 | 1.70 | 0.48 |
| (4) Hazen | 69 | 24 | 0.15 | 0.56 | -1.00 |
| Turtle Lake | 69 | 25 | 0.09 | 0.32 | -1.15 |
| Watford City | 66 | 26 | 0.01 | 0.24 | -0.96 |
| (5) Carrington | 69 | 24 | 0.41 | 0.74 | -0.57 |
| Harvey | 71 | 22 | 0.04 | 0.42 | -0.76 |
| Jamestown | 68 | 21 | 0.53 | 0.64 | -0.76 |
| Robinson | 68 | 22 | 0.37 | 0.60 | -0.78 |
| Streeter | 65 | 21 | 0.43 | 0.53 | -1.08 |
| (6) Dazey | 66 | 22 | 0.26 | 0.42 | -0.93 |
| Fargo | 66 | 20 | 0.01 | 0.08 | -1.50 |
| Hillsboro | 67 | 19 | 0.07 | 0.26 | -1.35 |
| (7) Beach | 63 | 26 | 0.02 | 0.38 | -0.87 |
| Bowman | 62 | 27 | 0.25 | 0.72 | -0.45 |
| Dickinson | 66 | 29 | 0.11 | 0.75 | -0.79 |
| Hettinger | 66 | 28 | 0.01 | 0.50 | -1.03 |
| (8) Mandan | 70 | 24 | 0.29 | 0.54 | -0.83 |
| Linton | 66 | 27 | 0.63 | 0.76 | -0.83 |
| (9) Edgeley | 66 | 24 | 0.40 | 0.66 | -0.95 |
| Oakes | 65 | 24 | 0.15 | 0.58 | -1.13 |
| Wyndmere | 65 | 24 | 0.41 | 0.53 | -0.67 |

^{1/} Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA=Not Available.
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Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.